

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action of August 7, 2008. Claims 16-21 are pending in the present application. Claims 16-21 have been rejected. Claim 1 has been amended to further define the scope and novelty of the present invention, in view of the Examiner's comments, in order to place the claims in condition for allowance. Support for the amendments to the claims is found page 20, lines 1-16, and page 21, lines 11-20. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been presented. Claims 29-30 have been added. Accordingly, claims 16-21 and 29-30 are pending. For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance, and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

In the event, however, that the Examiner is not persuaded by Applicants' amendments and arguments, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the amendments and arguments to clarify issues upon appeal.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the after-final phone interview of September 17, 2008. The 35 U.S.C. §102 rejections and possible amendments for overcoming the rejections were discussed. We appreciate the courtesy and helpfulness of the Examiner in the interview. The claims have been amended in light of the points made by the Examiner in the interview.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Examiner Stated:

Claims 10-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being taught by Goldberg et al. (U.S. Patent 6,496,833)....

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections. The present invention provides a method for supporting a plurality of graphical user interface (GUI) application programming interfaces (APIs). In accordance with one embodiment of the present invention, the method includes translating a plurality of elements of a query model into objects that are independent of any type of data structure associated with the plurality of GUI APIs, the plurality of elements being translated through use of a model content provider in communication with the query model, the plurality of elements representing a database statement. The method also includes passing the translated objects from the model content provider to a first content viewer in communication with the model content provider, the first content viewer supporting multiple GUI APIs. The method also includes passing the translated objects from the first content viewer to a second content viewer, the second content viewer being in communication with the first content viewer and an application written to run on a specific GUI API of the plurality of GUI APIs. Each of the first and second content viewers is a hierarchical set of classes, wherein higher levels of the hierarchical set of classes comprise more abstract structures, and wherein lower levels of the hierarchical set of classes comprise more GUI-specific structures. The method also includes using the second content viewer to manipulate the translated objects into one or more types of data structures required by the specific GUI API for use by the application. Goldberg does not teach or suggest these features, as discussed below.

Goldberg discloses a query object generator tool is used to generate interface definitions and source code which implement a database query object. The tool allows a client to construct a query object without being familiar with the underlying database

language and without being concerned with programming details such as concurrency problems and connection management. The tool consists of an internal state object which represents the query object, including information which can be saved to reconstruct the query object at a later date, and code generator objects which generate the code required to implement the query object defined by the internal state object. The code generator objects are arranged in a hierarchy so that a generator object can be instantiated which generator object is specific to the database to be accessed and the language to which the implementation is targeted. An optional graphic user interface (GUI) may also be provided to allow a user to interact with the tool. (Abstract.)

However, Goldberg does not teach or suggest passing translated objects from the first content viewer to a second content viewer, “wherein each of the first and second content viewers is a hierarchical set of classes, wherein higher levels of the hierarchical set of classes comprise more abstract structures, and wherein lower levels of the hierarchical set of classes comprise more GUI-specific structures,” as recited in independent claim 16. The Examiner referred to elements 206 and 208 of Figure 2 of Goldberg as describing the first and second content viewers, respectively. However, element 206 is merely a business object and element 208 is merely a query object. Elements 206 and 208 appear to be in a hierarchy. However, each of elements 206 and 208 is not a “hierarchical set of classes, wherein higher levels of the hierarchical set of classes comprise more abstract structures, and wherein lower levels of the hierarchical set of classes comprise more GUI-specific structures,” as recited in the present invention.

Therefore, Goldberg does not teach or suggest the combination of steps as recited in independent claim 16, and this claim is thus allowable over Goldberg.

Dependent claims

Dependent claims 17-21 depend from independent claim 16. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to independent claim 16 apply with equal force to claims 17-21, which are thus allowable over the cited reference for at least the same reasons as claim 16.

New claims 29 and 30

Dependent claims 29 and 30 depend from independent claim 16. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to independent claim 16 apply with equal force to claims 29 and 30, which are thus allowable over the cited reference for at least the same reasons as claim 16.

Furthermore, claim 29 recites “linking the one or more additional elements in the query model,” and claim 30 recites that the one or more additional elements comprises a table.” Goldberg does not teach or suggest these features.

CONCLUSION

Applicants' attorney believes this application is in condition for allowance.
Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

October 1, 2008

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